

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-17 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 18-35 are added. The following is the status of the claims of the above-captioned application, as amended.

1-17. (Cancelled.)

18. (New.) A cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase variant having an amino acid sequence which differs from the amino acid sequence of a parent cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase, wherein the parent cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase is a *Bacillus* cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase and the difference between the amino acid sequence of the cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase variant and the amino acid sequence of the parent cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase comprises one or more of the following:

47C; 47D; 47E; 47F; 47G; 47I; 47K; 47N; 47P; 47S; 47T; 47V; 47W; 47Y;

145D; 145H; 145I; 145N; 145Q; 145V;

146H; 146L; 146T; 146V; 146Y;

147C; 147E; 147N; 147Q;

196C; 196E; 196F; 196H; 196I; 196K; 196M; 196P; 196Q; 196R; 196T; 196V; 196W;

196Y; and

371C; 371F; 371H; 371K; 371M; 371R; 371T; 371W;

wherein each position corresponds to the position of the amino acid sequence of the mature Cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase obtained from *Bacillus circulans* strain 251.

19. (New.) The cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase variant of claim 18, wherein the parent cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase is cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase is derived from a *Bacillus* selected from the group consisting of *Bacillus autolyticus*, *Bacillus cereus*, *Bacillus circulans*, *Bacillus circulans* var. *alkalophilus*, *Bacillus coagulans*, *Bacillus firmus*, a strain of *Bacillus halophilus*, *Bacillus macerans*, *Bacillus megaterium*, *Bacillus ohbensis*, *Bacillus stearothermophilus*, *Bacillus subtilis*.

20. (New.) The cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase variant of claim 18, wherein the parent cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase is derived from a strain of *Bacillus circulans* or a mutant or a variant thereof.

21. (New.) The cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase variant of claim 18, wherein the parent cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase is derived from a strain of *Bacillus stearothermophilus*.

22. (New.) The cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase variant of claim 18, wherein the difference comprises 47C; 47D; 47E; 47F; 47G; 47I; 47K; 47N; 47P; 47S; 47T; 47V; 47W; or 47Y.

23. (New.) The cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase variant of claim 18, wherein the difference comprises 145D; 145H; 145I; 145N; 145Q; or 145V.

24. (New.) The cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase variant of claim 18, wherein the difference comprises 146H, 146L; 146T; 146V; or 146Y.

25. (New.) The cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase variant of claim 18, wherein the difference comprises 147C; 147E; 147N; or 147Q.

26. (New.) The cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase variant of claim 18, wherein the difference comprises 196C; 196E; 196F; 196H; 196I; 196K; 196M; 196P; 196Q; 196R; 196T; 196V; 196W; or 196Y.

27. (New.) The cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase variant of claim 18, wherein the difference comprises 196H.

28. (New.) The cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase variant of claim 18, wherein the difference comprises 371C; 371F; 371H; 371K; 371M; 371R; 371T; or 371W.

29. (New.) The cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase variant of claim 18, wherein the difference comprises D371R.

30. (New.) The cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase variant of claim 18, wherein the difference comprises:

47K/145E/146V/147N;
47K/145E/146E/147N;
47K/145D/146R/147D;
47K/145D/146E/147D;
47K/145E/146V/147N/196H;
47K/145E/146E/147N/196H;
47K/145E/146V/147N/196H/371R;

47K/145E/146E/147N/196H/371R;
47K/145D/146R/147D/196H;
47K/145D/146E/147D/196H;
47K/145D/146R/147D/196H/371R;
47K/145D/146R/147D/196H/371R;
47K/196H;
47R/196H;
145E/146V/147N;
145E/146E/147N;
145D/146R/147D;
145D/146E/147D;
47K/371R; or
47R/371R.

31. (New.) The cyclomaltoextrin glucanotransferase variant of claim 18, wherein the difference comprises:

C¹
S145E/E146V/T147N;
S145E/T147N;
S145D/E146R/T147D;
S145D/T147D;
S145E/E146V/T147N/D196H;
S145E/T147N/D196H;
S145E/E146V/T147N/D196H/D371R;
S145E/T147N/D196H/D371R;
S145D/E146R/T147D/D196H;
S145D/T147D/D196H;
S145D/E146R/T147D/D196H/D371R;
S145D/E146R/T147D/D196H/D371R;
S145E/E146V/T147N;
S145E/T147N;
S145D/E146R/T147D;
S145D/T147D;
K47R/D371R; or
K47R/D196H.

32. (New.) A method of producing a cyclodextrin, comprising treating a starch with a cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase variant of claim 18.

33. (New.) The method of claim 32, wherein the cyclodextrin is a α -cyclodextrin.

C¹ 34. (New.) The method of claim 32, wherein the cyclodextrin is a β -cyclodextrin.

35. (New.) The method of claim 32, wherein the cyclodextrin is a γ -cyclodextrin.
